

Comments from Drinking Water Q&A Sessions

Summary of Comments from Drinking Water Q&A Sessions on June 16, 17 and 18, 2014

InfoPage (R10 intranet)

EPA@Work (EPA intranet)

epa.gov/region 10 (Region 10 internet)

epa.gov (EPA internet) OEA and OMP held three Q&A sessions on June 16, 17 and 18, 2014 to share information about drinking water sampling results, take comments and suggestions, and respond to questions. Approximately 30 people attend the three sessions. Below is a summary of the suggestions received. Further information on the next steps will be provided soon by OEA.

- Put a notice on the Info Page or Drinking Water Quality page (of the Park Place Remodel website) noting that the hot water dispensers in the "old" space kitchenettes have not been tested.
- It was suggested that the water from the hot water dispensers be tested as another drinking water source. It was also suggested that the hot water dispensers be disconnected and signs posted to not use them until testing is complete.
- Provide blood lead testing for staff on floor 10 and 12 where the fountains tested above the lead MCL.
- Refrigerator ice on floors 7 and 8 was not sampled. Clarify whether this is because there was simply no ice available at the time to sample or if there is no working ice maker in these refrigerators.
- When communicating, reiterate that all new floors will be tested by the Lessor prior to EPA occupancy.
- Call meeting of the Union/Management Health and Safety Committee within the next few weeks to further discuss the water testing issue and follow-up steps.
- Provide information and contacts to individuals with concerns about lead and copper health effects and exposure.
- Provide at least one source of filtered drinking water on each floor.
- Go back and test all of the new fountains on new floors for

copper since the Lessor tested only for lead.

- Provide water source testing in EPA space on an ongoing and periodic basis.
- Test drinking water sources in other EPA locations, e.g., Ops Offices. Combine testing so that analysis is efficient for Manchester lab.
- Provide water source testing for ATSDR on the 5th floor.
- Coordinate with community relations staff on future meetings and risk communication messages.
- Post all former testing and communications data and evaluate for trends.
- Express data on the website as a percentage above the MCL/MCLG.
- Hold additional information sessions as more information is known and available.
- Reiterate and explain the rationale for lifting the ban on drinking water from Park Place (i.e., explain in greater detail why Chu's May 8 message said don't drink and his May 9 message lifted that advisory.
- Find out if any other EPA facilities nationwide have had similar issues and how they were dealt with.